

number of significant accomplishments. Among them were restructuring all levels of the organization, streamlining major changes in business practices, reemphasizing the Corps' missions in support of the Army and Department of Defense, and strengthening the organization's commitment to serve the nation and its vital interests.

Lt. Gen. Ballard has managed Army Corps of Engineers missions—including the nation's vast Civil Works Program, environmental restoration, and construction on military installations. His leadership has guided the Corps in assisting with recovery from natural disasters as well as regulating work in the Nation's waterways and wetlands, conducting research and development, serving as the Army and Air Force real estate agent, and providing engineering services to 60 other Federal agencies and more than 80 other nations. Earlier, he served as Commander of Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, with great distinction.

In addition to the military honors that he has achieved, the Council of Deans of Historically Black Colleges and Universities and the Career Communications Group recognized Lt. Gen. Ballard as the 1998 Black Engineer of the Year. He has also been the 1998–1999 president of the Society of American Military Engineers and a member of the National Engineering Honor society, Tau Beta Pi.

Mr. Speaker, Lt. Gen. Ballard has had an outstanding career in the Corps of Engineers and with the Army. He will surely be missed by everyone at those organizations. As he retires, I wish Joe and his wife Tessie all the best. I am certain that the Members of the House will join me in paying tribute to this outstanding American.

HONORING MEMBERS OF THE VOLUNTEER HONOR ROLL

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2000

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I am rising today to honor five of my constituents who have been named to the Honor Roll of Volunteers by the Appalachian Trail Conference [ATC].

Phyllis Henry, Jim Botts, Lionel Edney, Bill Kerr, and Dick Ketelle are among the 75 people who received this award because of their hard work which symbolizes the efforts and dedication of thousands of volunteers who help manage and protect the Appalachian Trail.

The Volunteer Honor Roll was established to celebrate ATC's 75th anniversary this year. Founded in 1925 to promote, build, and protect the Appalachian Trail, ATC is one of the most successful volunteer-based conservation and outdoor recreation organizations in the United States.

As you know, the Appalachian Trail is one of America's premier hiking trails and the world's longest footpath. Located within a day's drive of two-thirds of the U.S. population, it is used each year by up to four million individuals from around the world.

It is all through the great work and leadership of individuals like these five people and organizations like the Smoky Mountain Hiking Club, to which they all belong, that we are

able to protect and maintain this great national treasure.

Each of these individuals has dedicated thousands of hours over the years so that we could enjoy the Appalachian Trail. I would like to take the time to personally thank them for all of their work and to honor their great volunteer spirit for which Tennessee has been recognized for hundreds of years.

LORI BERENSON

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2000

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, today I support the recent letter signed by a majority of members of the House of Representatives urging the President to work for the release of Lori Berenson, an American Citizen illegally detained in a military prison in Peru.

It is ridiculous that I must bring up this issue yet again after four years. How many letters must we send to the President of Peru on Ms. Berenson's behalf. How many times must Mark and Rhoda Berenson appeal to members of their own government before they are reunited with their child?

Ms. Berenson was convicted four years ago of treason and sentenced to life imprisonment in Peru. The details of her case read like the script of a movie, secret Peruvian military tribunal, conviction in violation of international law, maximum security isolation, and now reports that her health is seriously threatened.

Ms. Berenson was convicted by a judicial system which has been characterized by the U.S. State Department as "inefficient, often subject to corruption, and easily controlled by the executive branch." The state department further states that "proceedings in the military courts—and those for terrorism in civilian court—do not meet internationally accepted standard of openness, fairness, and due process." Ms. Berenson's conviction has been condemned by the Organization of American States and the United Nations High Commission on Human Rights.

How does the American government, the most powerful government on the globe, the world's hegemon, sit by and allow this to happen. How can we continue to tell Mark and Rhoda Berenson "We're sorry, but there is nothing the United States of America can do to help free your daughter."

I cannot express in words, the pain I would feel if my child was being held illegally, health deteriorating. All of us in this chamber should try to imagine for just a moment the pain that is felt each and every day by the Berensons. We must then turn that sadness into a collective cry for action on the part of the administration. United States citizens must not be treated in such a barbaric manner.

I call on the President to act decisively. To use the vast resources of this great nation and demand Lori Berenson's release.

TAI KAI ATLANTA 2000

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2000

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on August 18, 2000 a gathering will take place in Atlanta, Georgia of teachers and students of the traditional Japanese martial art of Ninjutsu. The International Bujinkan Tai Kai, as the gathering is called, will host visitors from every corner of the globe. They will be in Georgia to train under the guidance of Dr. Masaaki Hatsumi, the Grandmaster of Ninjutsu. Dr. Hatsumi is the 34th Grandmaster of Ninjutsu, is the founder of the Bujinkan Dojo, and is considered a national treasure by the Japanese government. Bujinkan, which means "Divine Warrior Hall," was named in honor of his teacher, Toshitsugu Takamatsu.

I am extremely pleased Dr. Hatsumi has chosen Atlanta, Georgia as the host city for International Bujinkan Tai Kai 2000. It is my sincere hope each participant will benefit from the principles of discipline, self respect, and respect for fellow man, at the heart of Bujinkan.

I submit the following for the RECORD.

TAI KAI,
ATLANTA 2000,

July 1, 2000.

Re: Request for Proclamation or Special Letter of Welcome
Congressman BOB BARR,
c/o Slade Gullede, Marietta Congressional Office, Marietta, GA.

DEAR MR. GULLEDGE: With regard to a conversation you had with a member of my staff, Sean Gerety, and later an e-mail, I am requesting a Proclamation from Bob Barr to Dr. Masaaki Hatsumi. Atlanta has been selected as the site of the International Bujinkan Tai Kai by Dr. Masaaki Hatsumi, the 24th generation grandmaster of the Bujinkan system. Dr. Hatsumi is the only grandmaster of the traditional Japanese martial art of ninjutsu, and consequently his selection of Atlanta for the Tai Kai constitutes an important event.

The Bujinkan Atlanta Dojo, America's original school of Japan's oldest martial art will be sponsoring the Tai Kai for the fifth time. Bud Malmstrom is the owner and 11 degree Black Belt instructor of this school. He began his training over 22 years ago. Bud's wife Bonnie, 9th degree Black Belt instructor has been the organizer of all five Tai Kai conventions. She was the first non-oriental and the third woman only in the world to pass the fifth degree black belt test.

Hatsumi's last visit to Atlanta was during the Olympic year, 1996. He decided in 1996 that he would like to revisit the fair and beautiful city of Atlanta for the Millennium 2000 American Tai Kai training celebration. August 18th 600 ninja scholars and enthusiasts from every corner of the world will convene in the Grand Ballroom of the OMNI Hotel at CNN Center to begin a four day training event with the grandmaster of ninjutsu. Ninjutsu simply stated; the skill of the ninja is the art of winning . . . "attaining that which we need while making the world a better place in which to live."

Please see the information included and provide us with a Proclamation if at all possible. We will have an opening reception August 18th and plan to bestow this to Dr. Hatsumi as a gesture of welcome. If there is anyone from your office who could present this award to Dr. Hatsumi, it would be wonderful. Please let me know where and when